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For Immediate Release...

Corrections News

April 14, 2008

The Missouri Department of Corrections is participating in various ceremonies for Crime Victims' Rights Week, which runs from April 13-19.

The State observance and ceremony is set for noon Thursday in the Capitol Rotunda. Lieutenant Governor Peter Kinder, Attorney General Jay Nixon and St. Louis Circuit Attorney Jennifer Joyce are among the featured speakers.

"The Department's activities this week reflect our year-round commitment to crime victims' rights."

Director Larry Crawford

Department of Corrections Honors Crime Victims With Special Ceremonies Across the State

Highlighting the theme "Justice for Victims, Justice For All," the Missouri Department of Corrections is participating in various ceremonies for Crime Victims' Rights Week, which runs from April 13-19.

"Department staff members participate annually in Crime Victims' Rights Week in cooperation with representatives from their community," Department Victim Service Acting Coordinator Donna Hudson said. "Staff do an excellent job in honoring victims of crime and ensuring they know how much we value their rights and the vital role they play in the correctional process."

Numerous ceremonies and events around the state are planned this week. On Monday at 11:00 a.m., Missouri Probation and Parole (P&P) District 17 staff will plant a tree at St. Charles Community College at 4601 Mid Rivers Mall Drive in Cottleville. District 17 staff will be joined by representatives from the Community College, the St. Charles County Prosecutor's Office and the St. Louis Regional Traffic Safety Council. Also on Monday, Probation and Parole District 33 Administrator Rick Robinson will deliver opening remarks at noon at a ceremony at Big Spring Park in Neosho. On Tuesday at 10:00 a.m., Probation and Parole District 4B plans a balloon release at their offices at 1305 Locust in Kansas City. That event will focus on children. During the past two years, District 4B Officer Shephanie Sharp has developed and maintained a wall of pictures of missing and exploited children. P&P District 4B plans to release 75 balloons at Tuesday's ceremony, one for each child's picture posted in the lobby. On Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., Ozark Correctional Center (OCC) in Fordland will hold a tree planting ceremony in the Victims Garden at the prison entrance. On Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center (ERDCC) in Bonne Terre will hold a ceremony at the flagpole in front of the institution. Also Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. Farmington Correctional Center (FCC) will hold a ceremony in front of the institution. Displays created by offenders in the Restorative Justice program will be shown at the FCC event. On Friday morning at 11:00, Probation and Parole District 16 in Union will hold a barbecue at the Franklin County Courthouse. Proceeds from the barbecue will go to ALIVE, a program for battered women. Also on Friday, Maryville Treatment Center (MTC) staff and P&P District 40 will hold a tree planting ceremony at 9 a.m. at Mozingo Lake in Nodaway County. State Rep. Mike Thomson, R-Maryville, will be the guest speaker.

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